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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,247	03/19/2001	Bradley S. Hoyl	M-9698 US	7809

33031 7590 10/03/2005

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EXAMINER

WOOD, KIMBERLY T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3632

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,247

Applicant(s)

HOYL ET AL.

Examiner

Kimberly T. Wood

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/28/05
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 11-16, 20-23 and 31-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 11-16, 20-23 and 31-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

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This is an office action for serial number 09/81247, entitled Fiber Optic Cabling Management Using Hook and Loop Fabric, in response to RCE filed on September 13, 2005.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 11-16, 20-23, and 31-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lutz 5,666,265, as discussed above, in view of Delk et al. (Delk) 5,292,312. Lutz discloses a rigid frame (160), a substrate (281) having a first surface having a first plurality of fasteners (male velcro) and a second surface (column 8, lines 46, adhesive), a cable fastener (282) completely detachable from the substrate. Lutz teaches the method of supporting one or more cables (507) with a cable fastener, releasably engaging the cable fastener to a substrate, providing a ridge frame. Lutz discloses the claimed invention except that instead of fiber, electrical, or metal

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cables they show power cables. Therefore, because these two cables were art-recognized equivalents at the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to substitute power cables for fiber, metal, or electrical cables. The suggestion for such a modification is found in the applicant's own specification on page 9, lines 23ff). Lutz discloses all of the limitations of the claimed invention except for the hooks being mushroom-shaped, pine-tree-shaped. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substituted the mushrooms or pine-tree shaped stems, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice by the applicant's own admission on page 7, lines 8ff, that the exact type of releasable "VELCRO" mechanism is not critical to the invention (see *Harrori* 5,671,511). *In re Leshin*, 125 USPQ 416. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have made the cable fastener containing loops and the substrate containing hooks, since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Einstein*, 8 USPQ 167. Lutz discloses all of the limitations of

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the claimed invention except for the cable fastener having a head having a width greater than the predetermined width and defining an opening. Delk teaches that it is known to have a substrate (20) having a first surface having a plurality of first fasteners (23) and a cable fastener/tie wrap (30) having a head portion having opening/means for encircling (37) being detachable from the substrate having a second surface having a second plurality of fasteners (column 6, lines 54ff). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to have modified Lutz to have substituted the cable fastener as taught by Delk since the cable fasteners are art-recognized equivalents at the time the invention both being used as means of holding cables/tubular members to substrates. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have made the tie wrap containing loops and the substrate containing hooks, since it has been held that a mere reversal of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Einstein*, 8 USPQ 167.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly

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T. Wood whose telephone number is 571-272-6826. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leslie Braun can be reached on 571-272-6815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kimberly T. Wood
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

September 28, 2005